

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet(s) of drawings includes changes to .

In Fig. 1, "Image generatar" has been amended to --Image generator--.

Attachment: Replacement sheet

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, and 4-10 are pending in the application.

Drawings

A minor change has been made to Fig. 1 to place it in better form for U.S. practice.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to approve and enter this drawing change.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 2 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Suzuki et al. (USP 6,573,912). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 2 has been amended to claim:

an image synthesizing unit that synthesizes the left eye viewpoint image data and the right eye viewpoint image data generated by the image generating unit, based on display unit information from the request information, by joining the left eye viewpoint image data and the right eye viewpoint image side-by-side; . . . (emphasis added)

The foregoing feature of the present invention is shown in Figs. 7(A) and 7(C) and described in page 15, lines 2-8 of the specification of the present application.

In the Office Action, the Examiner alleges that item 142 (network server) of Suzuki shown in Fig. 1 corresponds to the “image synthesizing unit” of the present invention. More specifically, the Examiner states that the network server 142 of Suzuki synthesizes a plurality of image data in that “142 selects only those signals 134-140, voxel, and rendering information necessary to support a particular network connection,” by referring to col. 9, lines 18-20 of Suzuki.

Applicants submit, however, that even assuming that the Examiner’s foregoing interpretation of the Suzuki reference is reasonable, which Applicants do not admit, Suzuki fails

to disclose or suggests synthesizing “the left eye viewpoint image data and the right eye viewpoint image data generated by the image generating unit . . . by joining the left eye viewpoint image data and the right eye viewpoint image data side-by-side,” as recited in claim 2.

In view of this the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

(a) Claims 1 and 4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki and Suzuki (USP 6,525,732) in view of Gadh et al. (USP 6,525,732). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to claim:

an image data transmitting apparatus that includes,

....

an image synthesizing unit that synthesizes the left eye viewpoint image data and the right eye viewpoint image data generated by the image generating unit . . . by joining the left eye viewpoint image data and the right eye viewpoint image data side-by-side . . . (*emphasis added*)

As stated in the foregoing with regard to claim 2, Suzuki, in Fig. 1, fails to disclose or suggest the “image synthesizing unit” of the present invention.

The Examiner relies on Fig. 2 of Suzuki to show that the “receiving unit” of the present invention is known in the art. Further, the Examiner relies on the Gadh reference to show that the “display unit” of the present invention is known in the art.

Applicants respectfully submit, that even assuming that the Examiner’s interpretation of the cited references is reasonable, which Applicants do not admit, Suzuki (Fig. 1), Suzuki (Fig.

2), and Gadh, taken singly or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest synthesizing “the left eye viewpoint image data and the right eye viewpoint image data generated by the image generating unit . . . by joining the left eye viewpoint image data and the right eye viewpoint image data side-by-side,” recited in claim 1.

Claim 4, dependent on claim 1, is allowable at least for its dependency on claim 1.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

(b) Claim 5 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki in view of Gadh et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 5, dependent on claim 2, is allowable at least for its dependency on claim 2.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

(c) Claims 6 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki and Suzuki and Melen et al. (USP 6,631,205). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 6 and 8 have been amended in a manner similar to the amendments to claim 1. Therefore, at least for the similar reasons stated in the foregoing with regard to claim 1, Suzuki (Fig. 1) in view of Suzuki (Fig. 2) fail to disclose or suggest the “image synthesizing unit,” as recited in claims 6 and 8. The Examiner relies on the Melen reference to show that it discloses “a display unit” and “a judgment unit . . . that judges whether the received image data is of two-dimensional image data or stereoscopic image data.”

Applicants submit, however, that even assuming that Suzuki (Fig. 1), Suzuki (Fig. 2), and Melen can be combined, which Applicants do not admit, Suzuki (Fig. 1), Suzuki (Fig. 2), and

Melen, taken singly or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest the “image synthesizing unit,” as recited in claims 6 and 8.

In view of this, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

(d) Claims 7 and 9-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suzuki in view of Melen. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Further claim 9 has been amended in a manner similar to the amendments to claim 1. In view of this, Applicants respectfully submit that Suzuki in view of Melen fails to disclose or suggest the “image synthesizing unit,” as recited in claim 9.

Further, claims 7 and 10 have been amended to claim:

a receiving unit that receives, by way of network, coded image data of an image viewed from a left eye viewpoint and a right eye viewpoint in conformity with client's request information transmitted by way of a network, the coded image data including left eye viewpoint image data and right eye viewpoint image data that have been joined side-by-side. (*emphasis added*)

At least for the reasons stated in the foregoing with regard to the Suzuki and Melen references, Suzuki and Melen, taken singly or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest “a receiving unit that receives . . . coded image data . . . , the coded image data including left eye viewpoint image data and right eye viewpoint image data that have been joined side-by-side,” as recited in claims 7 and 10.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Conclusion

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the pending claims in the present application are respectfully requested.

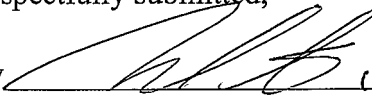
The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Amendment After Final in that it raises no new issues. Alternatively, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Amendment After Final in that it places the application in better form for Appeal.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Maki Hatsumi Reg. No. 40,417 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

for By  (reg. # 40,417)
Charles Gorenstein
Registration No.: 29,271
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road, Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant

Attachments